

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11 SAM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-05

/088 W

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R 101439Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4873

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KU, LE, SY, XF

SUBJ: YASIR ARAFAT VISITS KUWAIT

1. PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION LEADER YASIR ARAFAT ARRIVED KUWAIT MAR 8 TO OFFICIAL GREETING BY FONMIN SHAIKH SABAH AL-AHMAD. ARAFAT HAS HELD MEETINGS WITH ALL IMPORTANT GOK OFFICIALS, INCLUDING AUDIENCE WITH AMIR. VISIT BEING WIDELY PUBLICIZED.

2. DURING SPEECH AT LOCAL SCHOOL ATTENDED BY CROWDS VARIOUSLY ESTIMATED AT 25,000-50,000 PERSONS, ARAFAT SAID THAT 16,000 PALESTINIANS
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DIED IN RECENT TROUBLES IN LEBANON. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT 16,000

LEBANESE HAVE BEEN TRAINED BY PALESTINIAN FORCES DURING PAST ELEVEN MONTHS. HE MADE PREDICTABLE CHARGES THAT "OUTSIDE FORCES BENT ON DESTROYING PALESTINIAN PEOPLE," LIKE ITT AND CIA WHO WORKED TO BRING DOWN ALLENDE REGIME IN CHILE, WERE ALSO AT WORK IN LEBANON. ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS REPORTS ARAFAT ADMITTED TO DIFFERENCES WITH SYRIA OVER ITS RELATIONS (PRESUMABLY SYRIA'S RELATIONS) WITH JORDAN. ARAFAT ALSO PLEDGED PALESTINE LIBERATION ARMY FORCES WOULD NOT REMAIN IN LEBANON LONGER THAN NECESSARY. HE SAID THAT AL-FATAH WAS CONDUCTING A DIALOGUE WITH POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE. HE DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF A FOUR-PARTY SUMMIT CONFERENCE INCLUDING EGYPT, SYRIA, SAUDI ARABIA, AND THE PLO, WHICH PRESS INTIMATED WAS BEING PROMOTED BY SAUDI ARABIA.

3. ARAFAT PRESUMABLY WILL BE HERE FOR A DAY OR TWO MORE, AND EMBASSY WILL REPORT ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS OR UNUSUAL DOINGS ATTENDANT TO HIS VISIT. KUWAITIS ARE GIVING ARAFAT TOP-MOST TREATMENT AND STATEMENTS OF MUTUAL ADMIRATION REACHING STAGE OF NEAR-NAUSEA.

MAU

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